

Fisher, to be an Assistant Attorney General; and Regina B. Schofield, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 12, 2005, for a committee hearing titled "An Open Discussion: Planning, Providing and Paying for Veterans' Long Term Care." The hearing will take place in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 12, 2005, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be authorized to meet today, Thursday, May 12, 2005, from 3 to 5 p.m., in Hart 216 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security be authorized to meet on Thursday, May 12, 2005, at 10:30 a.m., for a hearing entitled "Examining USAID's Anti-Malaria Policies."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the privilege of the floor be granted to Emily Meeker, Rob Grayson, Waylon Mathern, and Jorlie Cruz for the remainder of the consideration of S. 732.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination on today's Executive Calendar: Calendar No. 59. I further ask unanimous consent that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and the President

be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

John Paul Woodley, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

NOMINATIONS DISCHARGED AND PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Agriculture Committee be discharged from further consideration of the nominations of Thomas Dorr, PN 68 and PN 69, and that the nominations be placed on the calendar, and finally that the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 136, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 136) designating the month of May 2005 as "National Drug Court Month."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution and preamble be agreed to, en bloc, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution be printed in the RECORD, without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 136) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 136

Whereas drug courts provide the focus and leadership for community-wide, antidrug systems, bringing together public safety professionals and other community partners in the fight against drug abuse and criminality;

Whereas the results of more than 100 program evaluations and at least 3 experimental studies have yielded definitive evidence that drug courts increase treatment retention and reduce substance abuse and crime among drug-involved adult offenders;

Whereas the judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation professionals, law enforcement and community supervision personnel, researchers and educators, national and community leaders, and others dedicated to the

movement have had a profound impact within their communities; and

Whereas the drug court movement has grown from the 12 original drug courts in 1994 to 1,621 operational drug courts as of December 2004: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of May 2005 as "National Drug Court Month"; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

NATIONAL CHILD CARE WORTHY WAGE DAY

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 137, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 137) designating May 1, 2005, as "National Child Care Worthy Wage Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the resolution.

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I rise today, along with Senators LAUTENBERG, BINGAMAN, DODD, DURBIN, FEINGOLD, INOUE, KERRY, BOXER and KENNEDY, to speak about a resolution supporting National Child Care Worthy Wage Day. It is my hope that it will bring attention to early childhood education and the importance of attracting and retaining qualified childcare workers.

Every day, approximately 13 million children are cared for outside the home so that their parents can work. This figure includes 6 million of our Nation's infants and toddlers. Children begin to learn at birth, and the quality of care they receive will affect them for the rest of their lives. Early childcare affects language development, math skills, social behavior, and general readiness for school. Experienced childcare workers can identify children who have development or emotional problems and provide the care they need to take on life's challenges. Through the creative use of play, structured activities and individual attention, childcare workers help young children learn about the world around them and how to interact with others. They also teach the skills children will need to be ready to read and to learn when they go to school.

Unfortunately, despite the importance of their work, the committed individuals who nurture and teach our Nation's young children are undervalued. The average salary of a childcare worker is just under \$18,000 annually. In 1998, the middle 50 percent of child care workers and preschool teachers earned between \$5.82 and \$8.13 an hour, according to the Department of Labor. The lowest 10 percent of childcare workers were paid an hourly rate of \$5.49 or less. Only one third of our Nation's childcare workers have health insurance and even fewer have